



**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
(HOPWA)
Home Investment Partnerships (HOME)
Program Year 49/ FY2023 – 2024
Annual Action Plan**

Office of Central Grants Administration
550 Main Street, Office 302
Hartford, CT 06103

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The City of Hartford, Connecticut is an entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Programs. The City has also received one-time funding under the HOME ARP program. In compliance with the HUD regulations, the City of Hartford has prepared this FY2023 Annual Action Plan for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

This Annual Action Plan is a strategic plan for the implementation of the City's Federal Programs for housing, community, and economic development activities within the City of Hartford. The Annual Action Plan includes CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA funds that the City will receive in FY 2022. The City's Division of Housing leads and administers HOME Funds and the one-time funding of HOME ARP. The City's Office of Central Grants Administration leads and administers CDBG, ESG, and HOPWA funds.

This is the City's fourth year of the Five Year Consolidated Plan (FY2020-24), which establishes the City's goals for the next five (5) year period and outlines the specific initiatives the City will undertake to address its needs and objectives by creating suitable living environments; expanding economic opportunities; providing essential services to vulnerable populations; improving City infrastructure; the rehabilitation and construction of decent, safe, and sanitary; and promoting fair housing.

The Annual Action Plan describes the actions to be undertaken in FY 2023, primarily to benefit low- and moderate-income persons and investment in areas with the highest percentage of low and moderate-income residents.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

During the FY 2023 Program Year, the City of Hartford proposes to address the following high priority needs and corresponding investment strategies. These priorities and opportunities were identified in the City's Five -Year Consolidated Plan and updated through extensive consultation with key institutional and community-based partners, and with input from Hartford residents. Specific investments include:

- Funding to organizations to undertake economic development activities- technical assistance and micro grants- that promote and support entrepreneurship and small business development.
- Funding to human service agencies for education and career development services that increase financial opportunities for low-income persons, especially those populations that face barriers to employment.
- Continuation of efforts to reclaim the riverfront and expand its recreational use by the community.
- Support activities – public safety and blight eradication- that improve the quality of low-moderate income neighborhoods.
- Funding to human service agencies and homeless service providers to provide essential services, youth development, and housing counseling.
- Resources to expand the inventory of affordable housing, improve the quality of existing housing stock, and increase homeownership opportunities.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Hartford is responsible for ensuring compliance with all regulations associated with CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA programs. Each year, the City prepares a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER) that provides outcome data and federal fund expenditures for proposed activities.

An initial evaluation of Hartford’s performance documents that the City has exceeded HUD’s requirement that 70% of CDBG funds be expended for the benefit of low-moderate income households. During the 2021 program year, the City expended CDBG funds in the amount of \$3,755,785 of which 74.75% to directly benefited low-moderate income residents. In the 2022 program year, the City is on target to once again exceed HUD’s requirement achieving 84.05%.

The City was also able to implement targeted pandemic recovery activities utilizing CDBG-CV funds. Of the \$3,706,877 granted to Hartford to respond to the pandemic, the City has targeted and expended \$3,125,663; far exceeding HUD’s goal of 80% expenditures.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

In accordance with HUD requirements, the City of Hartford adhered to its HUD approved Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) in the development of this Annual Action Plan. The CPP seeks to maximize citizen input regarding the investment of federal funding through provision of notice and of opportunity to comment on the strategies and activities proposed for all HUD funding. Efforts to expand participation in the process included:

- The City hosted technical assistance sessions to expand the capacity of organizations to access and utilize CDBG funds to respond to priority needs.
- Expanded notice through use of social media, and email blasts to neighborhood and civic organizations, community-based partners, and non-profit agencies.
- Conducted a special session with the Common Council to review community priorities and proposed funding allocations.

5. Summary of public comments

All comments were accepted. Attendees spoke of continued commitment to improve quality of life in lower income neighborhoods and importance of support for community-based organizations.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

All comments were accepted.

7. Summary

The Annual Action Plan is the outcome of a thorough evaluation of the current opportunities to address the community needs identified within the City’s Five-year Consolidated Plan effective 2020-2024. Consistent with the City’s Consolidated Plan, the Annual Action plan allocates the resources to meet the high priority needs during the program year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024.

The Process

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies - 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	HARTFORD	Office of Central Grants Administration
HOPWA Administrator	HARTFORD	Office of Central Grants Administration
HOME & HOME ARP Administrator	HARTFORD	Housing Division, Development Services
ESG Administrator	HARTFORD	Office of Central Grants Administration

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The administering lead agency is the City of Hartford’s Office of Central Grants Administration, a division of the Office of Management, Budget, and Grants, for the CDBG, ESG, and HOPWA Programs. The City of Hartford’s Housing Division of Development Services Department is the administering lead agency for the HOME and HOME ARP Program. The Office of Central Grants of City of Hartford prepares: the Five Year Consolidated Plan; Annual Action Plans; ERR’s; and the Consolidated Annual Evaluation Reports (CAPER); processes pay requests; and performs contracting, and oversight of the programs on a day to day basis.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)

1. Introduction

The City of Hartford has regular on-going engagement with municipal departments and diverse network of community-based organizations. The consultations were conducted through a variety of methods including interdepartmental coordination, active participation in regional councils and planning entities, one-on-one interviews, and public hearings.

The City additionally benefited from the coordinated planning efforts necessary to produce the City's Affordable Housing Plan as well as the HOME APR plan recently approved by HUD. The consultation efforts summarized below are the basis of activity prioritization and funding allocation found within the 2023 Annual Action Plan.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(l))

The City of Hartford utilized its expansive network of community-based organizations, human service agencies, and existing CDBG, ESG, and HOPWA providers to identify opportunities to enhance coordination. Within the Action Plan process and the corresponding application process, local organizations are encouraged to demonstrate their efforts are part of a coordinated community-based response.

The City of Hartford works with the following agencies to enhance coordination:

- **Hartford Housing Authority** - Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, improvements to public housing communities, and scattered site housing.
- **Development Services** - oversees the HOME program and a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program.
- **Human Services Agencies** - funds to improve services to low- and moderate-income persons.
- **Housing Providers** - funds to rehab and develop affordable housing - funds to improve housing options for low- and moderate-income families and individuals.
- **Journey Home** - coordinates the Greater Hartford CAN.
- **My Sister's Place** – oversight of the Mobility to Areas of Opportunity efforts.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The City of Hartford is a member of the Connecticut Balance of State CoC, which is divided into Coordinated Action Networks (CANs). Journey Home is the coordinating agency of the Greater Hartford Coordinated Access Network (Greater Hartford CAN), and as such, it is responsible for ensuring that the goals of ending chronic homelessness in the continuum are met. Journey Home serves not only as the CoC lead, but also as the HMIS administrator and the Coordinated Intake Operator.

The Greater Hartford CAN estimates that it will dedicate 476 permanent housing beds to families, 1,116 permanent housing beds to adults, 358 permanent housing beds to chronically homeless individuals and families, and 372 permanent housing beds to veterans in the City of Hartford.

The City of Hartford places a high priority in assisting those that are homeless, and those who are at risk of becoming homeless. The City of Hartford has developed a series of goals and priorities that assist these individuals and families for the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan. These goals and priorities are reflected in the FY 2022 Annual Action Plan. Funding through Central Grants Administration assists social service agencies that are members of the CAN and provide emergency shelter and permanent supportive housing for people who are at risk of homelessness, or people who are homeless.

The City of Hartford also consults with organizations that work with populations that are at a high risk of becoming homeless, including those recovering from substance abuse issues and the re-entry population. Organizations that work to address the opioid epidemic and families affected by addiction, and to assist the re-entry population with finding housing and employment are consulted and funded with CDBG funds.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

The City of Hartford is an ESG entitlement grantee. ESG sub-recipients are selected as a result of applications submitted to the City of Hartford Office of Central Grants Administration. The Greater Hartford (CAN) provides input on determining ESG funded projects to both the City of Hartford and to the Hartford Balance of State CoC. Representatives from the CAN determine ESG performance metrics and provide local data for reporting outcomes.

The CAN, in partnership with the City of Hartford, establishes the priorities, reviews and monitors priorities and goals, and reviews changes required by the Connecticut Balance of State CoC. CoC strategies include the prioritization of reducing the length of time it takes for a homeless individual or family to go through Rapid Rehousing that leads to Rapid Exit, as well as increasing the number of Permanent Supportive Housing units available. The CoC requires a Housing First approach from all ESG sub-grantees.

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a mandated computer system implemented to track homeless consumers through the Continuum of Care System and provide the continuum with an unduplicated count of those experiencing homelessness within the State of Connecticut. Journey Home is both the HMIS and CAN Lead agency. HMIS falls under the strict guidelines and requirements of State government that includes an assigned compliance officer. Privacy and Security Plans are reviewed at least yearly or as needed. Issues related to data quality are resolved within a timely manner. Providers with many missing values or errors are provided technical assistance.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction’s consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Department of Development Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Employment Other government - Local Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As a City department that oversees the implementation of numerous initiatives, the department was consulted regarding the housing and economic needs in the City. Anticipated Outcome is continued funding to agencies that deliver high priority services in compliance with regulations.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Housing Authority of the City of Hartford
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Housing Authority of the City of Hartford was an active participant in the City’s efforts to expand homeownership opportunities for lower income persons. Anticipated Outcome is the completion of the Mary Shepard project that produces units within a current Housing Authority project.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	AIDS CONNECTICUT, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	AIDS CONNECTICUT builds sustainable, accessible, and high-quality systems and services dedicated to eliminating health disparities for people impacted by HIV/AIDS. AIDS CT is also embarking on an initiative to facilitate and empower HOPWA clients to become more independent by working with providers to strengthen relationships with housing providers and building linkages to employment. Anticipated Outcome is continued targeting of resources to existing programs and provision of support for new initiative.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (CITY OF HARTFORD)

	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health Health Agency Agency - Emergency Management Other government - Local Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Group meetings were held along with phone calls; and coordination of a new initiative - Community-Driven Approaches to Address Structural Racism in Public Health in Hartford that proposed affordable housing as an indirect determinate of health “Welcome Home Hartford: Increasing Wealth and Health through Home Ownership. Anticipated outcomes: continued support and funding to programs that provide services, create opportunities and provide community drive approaches.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Planning Organization Regional organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The city coordinated efforts that led to a \$ 4.5million affordable housing effort – Home is where the hart is. Anticipated outcome is support and funding for the initiative to create homeownership for public housing residents.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Connecticut Fair Housing Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Group meetings were held along with phone calls; housing and community development priorities; social service and economic development needs. Anticipated outcome is continued partnership with Fair Housing Center.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	CHRYSALIS CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Regional organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Conference calls were held to discuss housing and community development priorities; social service and economic development needs. The outcome is continued prioritization of services, supportive housing, and economic opportunities as high priorities. Anticipated Outcomes is continued prioritization of services and housing for vulnerable persons
8	Agency/Group/Organization	DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources Agency - Emergency Management Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Hartford Department of Public Works was consulted on the City's Infrastructure needs, Riverfront development, Emergency Management Plan and Broadband Access Plan. Anticipated outcomes include continued investment in infrastructure, riverfront, and in addressing the digital divide.

9	Agency/Group/Organization	DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES, CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND RECREATION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service- Health Services- Education Services- Recreation Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Community Based programming
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City Department focuses on the coordination and delivery of programing and improvements to the recreational offerings to support enhanced quality of life for lower income households. Anticipated outcomes include continued funding for family support, youth programming and recreation offerings
10	Agency/Group/Organization	RIVERFRONT RECAPTURE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources Agency - Emergency Management Regional Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Open Space /recreation
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Riverfront Recapture, the nonprofit organization continues its efforts to “connect residents to the Ct river” through improved access to and utilization of the river. The anticipated outcome is continued funding for their efforts.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND TELLECOMUICATIONS

	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Agency – Emergency Management Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Hartford Emergency Management Department is charged with planning and responding to disaster response and the mitigation of all emergencies. Anticipated response includes coordination on infrastructure improvements, riverfront efforts, and expansion of wifi access throughout city.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	THE IQUILT PROJECT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government – Local Business Leaders Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The iQuilt Partnership exists to promote cultural vitality and a robust public domain in the city of Hartford, and throughout the Hartford region. The partnership promotes projects that support collaborative community visions that promote sustainability, prosperity, equity, mobility and vibrancy. Anticipated outcomes include municipal support for efforts, specifically hartford 400 that seeks to forge a comprehensive river-centered vision and action plan.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	METRO HARTFORD INNOVATION SERVICES

Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide Other government – Local
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Department is the City department charged with information technology governing accessibility, reliability, innovation, aligning digital technologies city-wide. Anticipated outcome is the continued focus on addressing the digital divide.

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

All known agency types were consulted and contacted during the planning process. There were no agencies or organizations intentionally not consulted.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Affordable Housing Plan	City of Hartford	The plan assesses the city’s housing needs, opportunities, and challenges; and sets a vision, goals, and specific actions related to housing affordability for the next five years.
Continuum of Care	Journey Home	CDBG and ESG funding is consistent with and supportive of CoC goals.
2020 Five Year & Annual PHA Plan	Housing Authority of the City of Hartford	As an agency that houses low-income persons, the shared goals of creating healthy communities and expanding opportunities are shared goals.
Downtown Housing Hartford Citywide Housing Study	City of Hartford, Planning and Zoning Commission	Continued investment downtown to create expanded economic opportunities close to a range of housing options is consistent with the Annual Action Plan goals.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Hartford City Plan	City of Hartford, Planning and Zoning Commission	Healthy communities require progressive policies and enforcement of building and zoning codes. The Hartford City Plan is consistent with goals to improve all Hartford neighborhoods.
Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice	City of Hartford, Department of Development Services	The Analysis is consistent with the Action Plan goal of ensuring equitable access to all services and opportunities.
Greater Hartford Community Wellbeing Index 2019	DataHaven	Each of the plans seek to identify desired improvements to create a healthier Hartford.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

The City of Hartford’s Office of Grants Administration, a division of the Office of Management, Budget, Grants, and Revenue, is the administrating agency for the CDBG, ESG and HOPWA programs. The City of Hartford’s Housing Division of the Department of Development Services administers the HOME program, the HOME ARP program, and the City’s Section 8 program. Close coordination is maintained within City departments and community partners for CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA projects.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

The City of Hartford adhered to its Citizen Participation Plan, which includes the outreach methods recommended by HUD. These outreach efforts included broadly advertised hearings held at convenient, accessible locations, mailing of notices to interested parties, utilization of virtual media, and the provision of technical assistance workshops to detail application and planning process.

The Citizen Participation process includes the review for consistency with the goals established within the approved Consolidated Plan (2020-2024) that enabled the City to establish Annual Action Plan goals that capitalized on existing networks, identified opportunities to leverage existing investments, and to focus the investment of public resources on the highest priority needs.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/ broad community Agencies/ Organizations	Meetings on Feb 9, 2023 at 2:30 and 5:30 PM to overview community development priorities and needs.	Total attendance in excess of 80 persons. Support for allocating resources to community-based organizations to address high priority needs.	All comments were accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Newspaper Ad	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/ broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/ Organizations</p>	<p>Notice was published in the Hartford Courant from June 5th regarding the proposed activities and allocations.</p>	<p>No comments were received.</p>	<p>NA</p>	
3	Public Meeting	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/ broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/ Organizations</p>	<p>Public hearings- in person and virtual were held on June 15 and June 26 by the Court of Common Council.</p>	<p>Overall, the comments were supportive, although a few funding allocations were amended.</p>	<p>All comments were accepted.</p>	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Newspaper Ad	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/ broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies/ Organizations	Advertisement of availability of draft plan and proposed activities and allocations was published in the Hartford Courant on July 6, 2023.	No comments were received.	NA	
5	Public Meetings	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/ broad community	Hearings were held on July 19- the virtual hearing at 1 and in person meeting at 5:30	Attendee spoke of support for investments in neighborhoods and continued funding for community-based programming. Suggested that the city investigate and support multigenerational housing models.	All comments were accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

For this fourth program year, the City of Hartford was allocated \$3,657,978 in CDBG funds, \$1,617,702 in HOME funds, \$317,525 in ESG funds, and \$1,384,984 in HOPWA funds for the FY 2023 Program Year. The program year begins on July 1, 2023 and ends on June 30, 2024.

In addition to the traditional Entitlement funds, Congress approved, and HUD has allocated a new pool of funding, HOME-ARP. This one-time funding pool provides significant new resources to address homeless assistance needs by creating affordable housing, build-out of non-congregate shelter units, providing tenant-based rental assistance or providing supportive services.

The City anticipates prior year resources and program income for CDBG (\$99,780), HOME (\$151,200) and HOPWA (\$113,797). The source detail of these funds is found in the Resource chart.

The “Expected Amount Available Reminder of Consolidated Plan” field is based off the FY 2020 allocation projected across five years.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 4				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources : \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	\$3,657,978	\$99,780	0	\$3,757,758	\$3,657,978	Priority Investments included community - based programming, infrastructure / riverfront improvements , and support for small businesses.
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	\$1,617,702	\$151,200	0	\$1,768,902	\$1,617,702	Projects that produced affordable housing units, improved existing housing stock, and expanded homeownership were funded.
HOPWA	public - federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	\$1,384,958	0	\$113,797	\$1,498,755	\$1,384,958	Activities that have demonstrated capacity to provide housing and quality services to eligible persons were funded.

ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	\$317,525	0	0	\$317,525	\$317,525	Programs that have successfully operated in meeting high priority need were funded.
HOME ARP	public - federal	Address homeless assistance needs by creating affordable housing, build-out of non-congregate shelter units, providing tenant-based rental assistance or providing supportive services.	\$5,242,613	0	0	\$5,242,613	0	HOME ARP is one time funding available through 2030.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

The following public (non-federal) and private financial resources are anticipated to be available to the City of Hartford to address the needs identified in the FY2023 Annual Action Plans:

Other Federal Funds:

The City of Hartford anticipates that it will receive a number of other Federal funds that it will use to complete its goals, including ARPA/American Rescue Plan Act, FHW/Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP); EPA Brownfield grants; FHA Streetscape Grants; DOJ Byrne Discretionary-Justice Involved Youth HUD/EDI grants; USDA/WIC funds; and HRSA/Ryan White Funds to assist those with HIV/AIDS, DOT National Infrastructure Investment- RAISE \$19M streetscape, HUD-EDI Riverfront, Colt Park, North Main Street Flooding, Library and EPA for Environmental Justice initiatives.

State of Connecticut:

The City of Hartford anticipates that it will be receiving State Grant Funds during the Five Year Consolidated Plan. State Departments offering grants that the City intends to apply for include:

CT Department of Economic & Community Development; CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection; CT Department of Transportation; CT Department of Housing; CT Department of Education; and CT Department of Social Services. State funds will be used for Brownfield cleanups, complete streets and bike lane programs, overdose harm reduction, HIV Prevention, the Youth Services Bureau, and a Sustainable Housing Solutions Program, among other projects.

Private Funding:

The City of Hartford intends to leverage funding from private entities as well as foundations.

If appropriate, describe publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

In FY23, the City of Hartford anticipates engaging local developers to rehabilitate three City owned properties (1355 Main Street, 270 Albany Avenue, 614 Albany Avenue) to create affordable rental opportunities:

1355 Main Street, a four-story mixed-use property will consist of approximately 1,700 square

feet of commercial space on the ground floor, the upper floors will consist of multiple residential rental units. Combined with other surrounding parcels the completed development will result in 46 apartments of which 11% (9) will be HOME assisted, 2 affordable to those who earn under 50% AMI and 7 affordable to those who earn 60% AMI. The project has secured a competitive State grant along with other federal and non-federal funds. The City of Hartford has conditionally committed HOME Funds in the amount of just over \$1,000,000.00 for the creation of the 9 HOME assisted units.

270 Albany Avenue is a mixed use two and ½ story building which when completed will consist of 20 residential units on the second and third floors, with approximately 3,500 Square feet of retail/commercial space on the ground floor. Of the 20 units of residential houses, the developer has committed to 20% of the units reserved for low to moderate income persons and/or families. The project may be funded with City of Hartford's HOME Funds and private financing raised by the developer.

614 Albany Avenue/88 Magnolia Street currently consists of 2 vacant city owned parcel. The development project will include 78 residential units with parking and commercial space on the ground floor. The number of affordable units is to be determined, but that anticipated affordability may be secured by the investment of HOME funding.

Discussion

The priorities identified within the Annual Action Plan are the outcome of an extensive, comprehensive effort to identify community needs.

The Plan assesses the resources available to meet those needs. The City of Hartford's investments will leverage public and private funds to address the economic development, affordable housing, community development, and service needs of vulnerable populations.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	HSS-1 Homeownership	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$60,000 HOME: \$178,200	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 40 Persons Assisted Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 20 Households Assisted
2	HSS-2 Housing Construction	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	HOME: \$358,609	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 6 Household Housing Unit
3	HSS-3 Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$132,000 HOME: \$143,443	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 40 Household Housing Unit
4	HSS-4 Renter-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$620,000 HOME: \$573,775	Rental units rehabilitated: 45 Household Housing Unit
5	HSS-7 Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	HOPWA: \$330,000 HOME: \$215,166	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 125 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	HSS-8 Relocation Assistance	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$60,000	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 25 Households Assisted
7	HMS-1 Operation/Support	2020	2024	Homeless	Citywide	Housing Priority Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$60,000 ESG: \$190,515	HIV Housing Operations: 350 Persons Assisted
8	HMS-2 Prevention and Re-Housing	2020	2024	Homeless	Citywide	Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$232,500 ESG: \$117,485	Homeless Prevention 285 Persons Assisted
9	SNS-2 Social Services	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Citywide	Other Special Needs Priority	HOPWA: \$1,127,206	Homeless Prevention: 200 Persons Assisted: HIV Housing Provided 60 Households Assisted
10	CDS-2 Infrastructure	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$453,936	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 7500 Households Assisted
11	CDS-4 Public Services	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$361,396	Public services Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 600 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
12	CDS-7 Blight Remediation	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$200,000	Housing Code Enforcement/Forfeited Property Care: 100 Household Housing Unit
13	EDS-1 Employment	2020	2024	Economic Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$225,496	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 275 Persons
14	EDS-2 Financial and Technical Assistance	2020	2024	Economic Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$746,054	Businesses assisted: 25 Businesses Assisted
16	AMS-1 Overall Coordination	2020	2024	Administration, Planning, and Management	Citywide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$831,367 HOPWA: \$41,549 HOME: \$176,890 ESG: \$9,525	Other: 4 Other

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b)

The HOME program anticipates assistance 20 moderate income (up to 80% AMI) to purchase their first home, provide rehab financing to 40 lower income owners, construct/ rehab 6 units for sale/occupancy to moderate income buyers, and finance creation/improvement to 240 units of rental housing available to extremely low and low income households.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	HSS-1 Homeownership
	Goal Description	Assist low- and moderate-income households to become homeowners by providing down payment assistance, closing cost assistance, along with housing counseling training.
2	Goal Name	HSS-2 Housing Construction
	Goal Description	Increase the supply of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing that is affordable to owners and renters in the community through new construction.
3	Goal Name	HSS-3 Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Continue to provide financial assistance to low- and moderate-income homeowners to rehabilitate and improve the energy efficiency of their existing owner-occupied housing.
4	Goal Name	HSS-4 Renter-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Provide financial assistance to landlords to rehabilitate housing units, improve energy efficiency, and convert existing buildings for rent to low- and moderate-income tenants.
5	Goal Name	HSS-7 Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
	Goal Description	Provide financial assistance to tenants by providing funds for housing costs to sustain affordability.
6	Goal Name	HSS-8 Relocation Assistance
	Goal Description	Provide services and resources to individuals and families who are forced to relocate from their home due to fire or a disaster that destroyed their living unit or made it uninhabitable.
7	Goal Name	HMS-1 Operation/Support
	Goal Description	Assist homeless service providers in the operation of housing and support services for the homeless and persons who are at risk of becoming homeless.
8	Goal Name	HMS-2 Prevention and Re-Housing
	Goal Description	Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities, support services for renters to remain in their housing unit, housing counseling services, and promote programs for rapid re-housing.
9	Goal Name	SNS-2 Social Services
	Goal Description	Support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs.

10	Goal Name	CDS-2 Infrastructure
	Goal Description	Improvement to infrastructure and open space within low -moderate income areas through investment in parks, riverfront, and public safety operations.
11	Goal Name	CDS-4 Public Services
	Goal Description	Improve and enhance public services including: programs for youth, the elderly, disabled, and other public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
12	Goal Name	CDS-7 Blight Remediation
	Goal Description	Remove, correct and eliminate blighting conditions and structures through remediation, rehabilitation, and as a last resort, clearance of bighted properties and structures throughout the City.
13	Goal Name	EDS-1 Employment
	Goal Description	Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, workforce development, employment, and job training services for the unemployed and underemployed persons including summer youth programs.
14	Goal Name	EDS-2 Financial and Technical Assistance
	Goal Description	Support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development through technical assistance programs and low interest loans, grants, and micro grants.
16	Goal Name	AMS-1 Overall Coordination
	Goal Description	Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, State, and local funded programs, including planning services for special studies, annual action plans, five year consolidated plans, substantial amendments, consolidated annual performance and evaluation reports, environmental review clearance, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
17	Goal Name	AMS-3 Fair Housing
	Goal Description	Provide funds for training, education, outreach, and management to affirmatively further fair housing in the City of Hartford.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Hartford has allocated its federal funding- CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA to programs and activities that address high priority needs. This section details the activities that the City of Hartford will undertake with its Entitlement funds during the period of July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Public Services (CDBG)
2	Community and Economic Development
3	Planning and Administration
4	ESG-23 Hartford
5	HOPWA- FY23
6	HOME- Investment Partnerships Program

Table 6 – Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

Within this Annual Action plan, activities were selected that directly address the high priority needs of low-moderate income households. The needs identified through the Consolidated Plan process and Action Plan consultations and community engagement include:

Housing Priority

High priority need to improve the quality of the housing stock in the City of Hartford by increasing the supply of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing and by providing counseling and financial assistance to eligible first time homebuyers

Homeless Priority

High priority needs for persons experiencing homelessness or who are at-risk of homelessness were identified in the Planning process as the provision of emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, and supportive services. This plan includes activities that fund the operation of housing and support services for the homeless and persons who are at risk of becoming homeless, support homeless prevention and rapid rehousing programs, and create permanent supportive housing for vulnerable at-risk populations.

Public Services for Vulnerable Populations Priority

High priority needs identified for public services included a focus on the provision of programming and services to vulnerable persons. This plan funds community-based organizations to provide programs for youth, the elderly, disabled; to provide assistance for food and nutritional programs to address the needs of the unemployed, underemployed, and homeless populations.; and to support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs.

Community Development Priority

High priority needs to improve living conditions, infrastructure, and public facilities through investment in the built environment and improved access to natural resource areas and public open spaces.

- Funding to improve quality of life in Hartford neighborhoods and community by reducing the number of properties that are vacant, abandoned, and in blighted condition. The purpose is to protect the health, safety, welfare, and economic well-being of Hartford's residents by encouraging decent, safe, and sanitary housing and commercial facilities.
- Continued support for ongoing improvements public access to Hartford's riverfront for recreational activities (fishing, rowing/sculling, biking, jogging, hiking, etc.) via physical improvements to the infrastructure (landscaping, walkways, parking, public art, and other park amenities, etc.).

Economic Development Priority

High priority needs to support small business development along neighborhood commercial corridors and support for education, job training, and employment support for under employed persons. This Action Plan funds: programs that support and encourage new job creation, job retention, workforce development, employment, and job training services for the unemployed and underemployed persons including summer youth programs; and support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development through technical assistance programs and low interest loans, grants, and micro grants.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Public Services (CDBG)
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-4 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$548,696
	Description	The City will direct grant funds for a wide range of public services activities, including, but not limited to: Child care, Health care, Job training, Recreation programs, Education programs
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Based upon prior year accomplishments, the activities are anticipated to provide benefits to 2000 low-income persons, 50 households in need to advocacy and crisis counseling due to domestic violence, job training and career services to 250 persons, and 200 persons experiencing homelessness or housing instability.
	Location Description	City-wide

Planned Activities	Youth Programming and Services:
	Big Brother/Big Sister Nutmeg- \$8,000
	Boys and Girls Club Triple Play- \$16,500
	Caribbean American Dance Program- \$15,000
	Catholic Charities- Youth Development- \$7,000
	Center for Latino Progress /CT Puerto Rican -Youth Program- \$20,000
	Charter Oak Boxing & Youth Development – Champions of Life \$34,000
	Charter Oak Cultural Center – Youth Arts Institute- \$22,000
	Children In Placement- Guardian Ad Litem Program - \$8,600
	Community First School- Putting Community First - \$15,000
	Ebony Horsewoman -Animal Growth and Learn Program- -\$15,000
	Gifted Onez - \$20,000
	HARC- Capable Camp Summer Camp- \$7,500
	Hartbeat Ensemble -Youth Plan Institute-\$7,500
	Hartford Courant Camp- \$12,000
	Hartford Knights- Future Knights- \$10,500
	Hartford Performs -Art Program- \$14,000
	My Sisters House- For Love of Children - \$16,000
	Organized Parents Make a Difference- \$8,500
	Family Economic Stabilization Services
	Community Partners in Action- Reentry Welcome Center - \$52,500
	San Juan Center- Employability Program- \$30,000
	Workforce Development Services
	Career Resources- STRIVE- \$7,000
	Futures – Employing Students with Disabilities - \$13,800
	Goodwill Career Services - \$1,000
	Knox Inc.- Green Jobs Apprenticeships- \$25,000
	Mercy Housing and Shelter Corporation- Jumpstart to Jobs- \$10,000
	Family Wellness Services
	Hispanic Health Council- Family Health Center - \$33,000
	Hartford Artisans Weaving Center- Therapeutic Weaving Program -\$7,00
	YWCA – Hartford Sexual Assault Crisis Services- \$4,296
	Homeless Services
	Journey Home – CAN Shelter Services - \$ 60,000
	Open Hearth- Shelter and Rehousing - \$30,000

		<p>Housing Services</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Urban League of Greater Hartford- Housing Counseling - \$17,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Urban League of Greater Hartford- Housing Counseling - \$17,500	
Urban League of Greater Hartford- Housing Counseling - \$17,500				
2	Project Name	Economic Development, Community Development (CDBG)		
	Target Area	City-wide		
	Goals Supported	HSS-3 Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation HSS-8 Relocation Assistance CDS-2 Infrastructure CDS-7 Blight Remediation EDS-1 Employment EDS-2 Financial and Technical Assistance		
	Needs Addressed	Housing, Homeless, Economic Development, Infrastructure		
	Funding	CDBG: \$2,377,686		
	Description	The City intends to fund activities including technical assistance, business support services, and other similar services to owners of microenterprises or persons developing microenterprises; job training and job placement services; parks improvements, fire equipment, blight remediation.		
	Target Date	6/30/2024		
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Based upon prior year accomplishments the City anticipates providing benefit to 35 small business, 20 MWBE, and technical assistance to 50 emerging businesses. Neighborhood economic development will also be provided to support the Upper Albany and Clay Arsenal neighborhoods.		
	Location Description	City-wide		

	Planned Activity	<p>MicroEnterprise Development</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Hands on Hartford- Shared Kitchen - \$31,400</td></tr> <tr><td>HEDCO Inc.- TA to Hartford Businesses- \$170,000</td></tr> <tr><td>International Hartford LTD.- Business Counseling - \$ 110,000</td></tr> </table> <p>Technical Assistance to Businesses</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Minority Construction Council- Small Contractors, MWBE TA program- \$110,000</td></tr> <tr><td>UH Entrepreneurial Center-Business Assistance- \$60,000</td></tr> <tr><td>SAMA- Small Business Assistance- \$170,000</td></tr> <tr><td>UH Upper Albany Main Street- Micro Business Incubator \$94,654</td></tr> </table> <p>Workforce Development</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Forge City Works – Culinary and Customer Service Job Training – \$69,807</td></tr> <tr><td>Hartford Public Library-Immigrant Career Pathways- \$46,959</td></tr> <tr><td>Journey Home Inc.- Career Path to Employment - \$28,930</td></tr> </table> <p>Homeless</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>City/HHS Emergency Placement Services-Emergency Placements- \$185,000</td></tr> </table> <p>Housing</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>City/DS HPLF Staffing Program Delivery- \$455,000</td></tr> <tr><td>City/DS Low Income Rental Housing Coordination - \$60,000</td></tr> <tr><td>City/DS Blight Reduction - \$200,000</td></tr> <tr><td>Rebuilding Together Hartford Inc.- Homeowner Retention - \$132,000</td></tr> </table> <p>Public Infrastructure</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>City/COO Parks Improvement- \$123,936</td></tr> <tr><td>City/Fire Protection Equipment - \$185,000</td></tr> <tr><td>Riverfront Recapture- \$145,000</td></tr> <tr><td></td></tr> </table>	Hands on Hartford- Shared Kitchen - \$31,400	HEDCO Inc.- TA to Hartford Businesses- \$170,000	International Hartford LTD.- Business Counseling - \$ 110,000	Minority Construction Council- Small Contractors, MWBE TA program- \$110,000	UH Entrepreneurial Center-Business Assistance- \$60,000	SAMA- Small Business Assistance- \$170,000	UH Upper Albany Main Street- Micro Business Incubator \$94,654	Forge City Works – Culinary and Customer Service Job Training – \$69,807	Hartford Public Library-Immigrant Career Pathways- \$46,959	Journey Home Inc.- Career Path to Employment - \$28,930	City/HHS Emergency Placement Services-Emergency Placements- \$185,000	City/DS HPLF Staffing Program Delivery- \$455,000	City/DS Low Income Rental Housing Coordination - \$60,000	City/DS Blight Reduction - \$200,000	Rebuilding Together Hartford Inc.- Homeowner Retention - \$132,000	City/COO Parks Improvement- \$123,936	City/Fire Protection Equipment - \$185,000	Riverfront Recapture- \$145,000	
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Riverfront Recapture- \$145,000																					
3	Project Name	Planning and Administration																			
	Target Area	City-wide																			
	Goals Supported	AMS-1 Overall Coordination AMS-3 Fair Housing																			
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority																			
	Funding	CDBG: \$831,376																			
	Description	The City will fund Administration and Fair Housing for City Staff to administer Entitlement Programs in accordance with Federal Regulations.																			

	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The City will support positions in the Central Grants Administration, Development Services, and Housing Division with the proposed administration funds.
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Compliant administration and oversight of HUD funds.
4	Project Name	ESG-23 Hartford
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	HSS-8 Relocation Assistance HMS-1 Operation/Support HMS-2 Prevention and Re-Housing
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
	Funding	ESG: \$317,525
	Description	The Greater Hartford Coordinated Access Network (CAN) has funded programs including some of the services initially funded through the ESG COVID funds. The programs funded will focus on Homeless outreach, shelter diversion, and permanent housing placements
	Target Date	6/30/24

Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	105 persons 1 Other
Location Description	City-wide

<p>Planned Activities</p>	<p>Homeless Outreach</p> <p><i>Program Description:</i></p> <p><u>The purpose of the program will be to provide homeless street outreach to households experiencing literal homelessness and provide case management to identify and secure safe, viable housing opportunities.</u></p> <p>The program will focus primarily on canvassing and conducting outreach on evenings and weekends. These activities will be tailored to meet the immediate needs of unsheltered homeless people by connecting them with emergency shelter, housing, and/or critical health services. This may include, but is not limited to, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, peer/recovery support, medical care, and financial assistance. Subcontractor will work in collaboration with the other outreach providers in the GH CAN in order to prevent duplication of services and ensure comprehensive geographic coverage of the CAN.</p> <p>Shelter Diversion</p> <p><i>Program Description:</i></p> <p>The purpose of this project will be to provide diversion services to households at imminent risk of homelessness, those who are literally homeless but not yet in shelter, or those households who need a brief shelter stay (seven days or less) in order to obtain safe permanent housing.</p> <p>The goals of this project are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) ensure there is not a back log in CAN appointments being scheduled such that there is not more than a 2-business day wait between calling 211 and being scheduled for an appointment, and 2) being able to book a CAN appointment for all subpopulations one week out from impending homelessness (the system prior to ESG-CV funding set to expire on 9/30/23 required individuals to be 48 hours from homelessness) with the intent that program participants achieve and maintain housing stability. <p>Any additional available financial assistance for eligible households will be centrally administered by Journey Home as requested by program staff through HMIS or another agreed upon method. It is expected that existing financial assistance resources, through existing providers and CCEH, shall be leveraged to support clients served through this program.</p>
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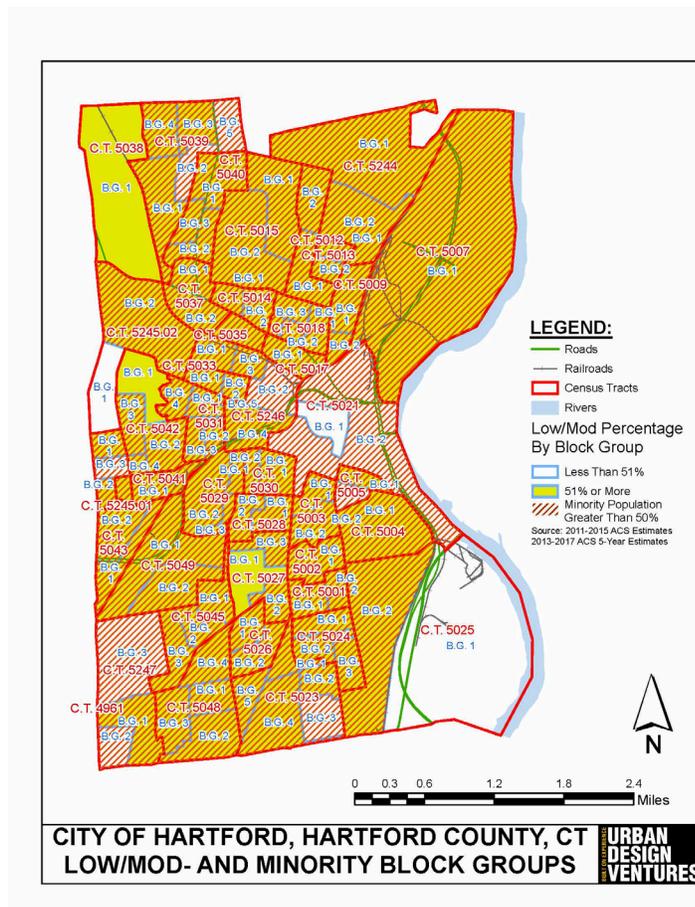
5	Project Name	HOPWA
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	HSS-7 Tenant-Based Rental Assistance SNS-2 Social Services
	Needs Addressed	Other Special Needs Priority
	Funding	HOPWA: \$1,498,755
	Description	The City plans to fund work with AIDS CT, Chrysalis Center, St. Philip's House, Hands on Hartford, HRA of New Britain, Mercy Housing, Zezzo House.
	Target Date	6/30/24
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Proposed HOPWA activities will benefit an estimated 275 individuals living with AIDS/HIV
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Planned activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIDS CT Inc. CTH20F001 (ACT) \$161,450 • Chrysalis Center CTH20F001 (CHRY) \$179,667 • St. Philip House CTH20F001 (SPH)\$164,297 • Hands on Hartford CTH20F001 (HOH) \$350,000 • Human Resources Agency of New Britain CTH20F001 (HRA) \$163,200 • Mercy Housing and Shelter Corp. CTH20F001 (MHSC) \$257,845 • Zezzo House Corp. CTH20F001 (ZH) \$114,958 • City of Hartford- DIG Extension- \$20,000 • City of Hartford- Enhanced Employment -\$45,790
6	Project Name	HOME- Investment Partnerships Program

Target Area	Citywide
Goals Supported	HSS-1 Homeownership HSS-2 Housing Construction HSS-3 Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation HSS-4 Renter-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation
Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
Funding	HOME: \$1,768,902
Description	During Year Four HOME Investment Partnerships Program funding will be utilized for homebuyer assistance and rehabilitation/new construction of residential properties for homeownership or rental housing or any combination thereof; 15% set-aside for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs); 75% set-aside for homebuyer assistance and rehabilitation/new construction of residential properties for homeownership or rental housing or any combination thereof. The projected CHDO expenditures are calculated as follows: entitlement of \$1,592,012 x .15 requirement = \$238,802. This represents the minimum CHDO expenditure. The City is exempt from HOME match requirements.
Target Date	6/30/2024
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	6 Homeowner housing added 240 Rental Housing added 20 households through homebuyer assistance 40 existing homeowners provided housing rehab
Location Description	Rental 152 units @3580 Main Street, 43 units @Arrow head 99 units @ Putnam Park 20 units @270 Albany Ave, 29 units @Metroplex Homeownership 20- Citywide TBD Existing Owner Rehab- 40- Citywide TBD

Planned Activities	Activities include homebuyer assistance, housing rehabilitation, new construction, and a CHDO set-aside project
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AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed



Projects are selected following a formal process open to all Municipal Departments and Community-based organizations. Guided by their knowledge of the community and by insights gained through the consultation process, the City selects those projects that are most responses to high priority need. As the map indicates, many areas of the City are HUD eligible Low/Mod areas. Investments in public spaces and infrastructure occur within those eligible areas. CDBG funds are allocated to activities that predominantly serve low-moderate income

families.

CDBG Public service programs, ESG and HOPWA funded programs operate city-wide but are required to serve eligible populations.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Citywide	70

Table 7 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

As indicated, the majority of CDBG public service programming, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA – funded programs operate city-wide. These programs are intended to directly benefit eligible populations, rather than requiring geographic targeting.

Within this Action Plan, the City has invested through efforts that directly improve low-moderate income areas. These investments include:

- Public safety Infrastructure /Fire Department Improvements
- Public Park Improvements
- Riverfront Improvements
- Code Enforcement and Blight reduction activities.
- Economic Development activities within the Upper Albany and Clay Arsenal neighborhoods.

Discussion

Based upon public input, the City prioritized projects that addressed economic development opportunities, essential human services and programming, public parks, and expansion of and improvements to affordable housing.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Hartford will utilize its CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA funds to rehabilitate and to support the construction of new affordable housing units. The one year goals for affordable housing in the City of Hartford for FY 2023 are as follows:

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	20
Non-Homeless	449
Special-Needs	0
Total	469

Table 8 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	240
Rehab of Existing Units	195
Acquisition of Existing Units	20
Total	455

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The City of Hartford has allocated funding for the following projects with 2023 CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA funds:

City of Hartford - Home Energy Savings

City of Hartford Development Services - HPLF Program Income - 45 rental units; 40 homeowner housing units

Rebuilding Together Hartford, Inc. - Homeowner Retention

City of Hartford Development Services - HOME Programs will provide funding towards the following projects and programs:

Homeowner Assistance - 20 units

Rental projects underway include:

152 units @3580 Main Street

43 units @Arrow head

99 units @Putnam Park

20 units @270 Albany Ave

35 units @Metroplex

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Housing Authority of the City of Hartford (HACH) is the local public housing agency serving the City. The Authority owns and manages 962 units of public housing, including four (4) communities targeted to elderly and disabled housing. In addition, HACH is allocated a total of 2,850 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, including 59 Mainstream Vouchers, 83 Family Reunification Vouchers, and 168 VASH vouchers. HACH has undergone RAD conversion of two (2) of its developments and received 178 Project Vouchers after conversion. Additionally, HACH has 70 project-based vouchers.

The mission of the Housing Authority of the City of Hartford is to be a fiscally sound agency that provides safe, decent, and affordable high-quality housing choices. HACH strives to become closer to its resident and community partners while being a positive catalyst for the creation of economic opportunities and independence in diverse communities.

In addition to the Housing Authority, the City of Hartford also administers Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers through its Department of Development Services. Development Services administers 5,100 vouchers, 100 of which are Section 8 Project-Based Vouchers. Development Services also administers five (5) VASH vouchers.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

The Housing Authority of the City of Hartford owns and operates 13 public housing communities. The physical condition of the housing ranges based on property, but maintenance and upgrades are needed due to the age of the units. The Housing Authority is developing new low-income housing in Hartford with private-public partnerships.

The Housing Authority of the City of Hartford plans a variety of capital improvements in its properties. By public housing community, planned activities during the Five-Year Plan period are as follows:

- Smith Tower – Roof replacement, retaining wall repair.
- Mary Shephard Place – Demolition of existing units and construction of up to 100 new units slated for Homeownership.
- Stowe Village – Roof replacements (multiple phases), boiler/water heater replacement.
- PHA-Wide – Capital needs assessment, carbon monoxide/smoke alarm installation and replacement.
- Scattered Sites – Unit rehabilitation.

- 180 John D. Wardlaw Way – Facade repair.

Additionally, authority-wide improvements include, radon testing/mitigation, security upgrades, brick repointing, site work (concrete work, paving/sealing of parking lots and pedestrian walks), gutter and downspout cleaning and repair, installation of bathroom exhaust fans, window replacement, roof replacement, and energy conservation measures, as needed.

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

The Housing Authority of the City of Hartford (HACH) has resident councils which form the Hartford Housing Tenants Organization. The Organization has representatives from various resident councils, and every Low-Income Public Housing Community has a resident council except for one. To support its belief that that it is essential that residents have a voice in the decision-making process for its ongoing and future development projects, operations, and the budget process. The following actions have been taken to help ensure transparency and participation:

- A signed Resident Participation Plan (RRP) for the Westbrook Village Redevelopment Project
- Although currently vacant, a tenant commissioner, chosen by HACH’s residents, has a seat on HACH’s Board of Commissioners.

In response to a recurring request from HACH’s Resident Advisory Board (RAB), HACH has expanded its local elderly preference to Mary Mahoney Village and Kent Apartments. The Housing Authority encourages participation in resident councils and participates in key meetings with its councils regarding the development and rehabilitation of units. Annual Plans are given to each resident council after board approval. Existing programs to benefit residents of Low-Income Public Housing include:

- The Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Program provides a Resident Service Coordinator to tenants to improve the quality of life for those with limited employability (specifically the elderly and disabled).

HACH intends to apply for funding for a Family Self-Sufficiency program. HACH has and will encourage public housing residents to become homeowners. A later phase of the Willow Creek project anticipates an affordable homeownership program, consisting of approximately 29 units.

Additionally, the Housing Authority is no longer considering new rental creation at Mary

Shephard Place. Instead, with the help of a recently awarded \$4.75 million-dollar Community Investment Fund grant, Mary Shepard place will be demolished and will be replaced with up to 100 newly constructed homeownership opportunities. The City of Hartford will provide HOME - funded downpayment assistance for qualified buyers.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

The Housing Authority of the City of Hartford is not classified as “troubled” by HUD .

Discussion

See above

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(7)

Introduction

Under this Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the City of Hartford in cooperation with the local Coordinated Action Network has developed its Strategic Plan to address homelessness for FY 2020 through FY 2024. These goals are set forth in the following priorities:

- **HMS-1 Operation/Support** - Assist homeless service providers in the operation of housing and support services for the homeless and persons who are at risk of becoming homeless.
- **HMS-2 Prevention and Re-Housing** - Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for rapid re-housing.
- **HMS-3 Housing** - Support the rehabilitation and accessibility improvements to emergency shelters and transitional housing for the homeless.
- **HMS-4 Permanent Housing** - Support the development of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The Greater Hartford Coordinated Action Network (CAN) works with the Hartford Police Department and the Department of Health and Human Services to assist populations that are at-risk of homelessness. Persons and families at-risk of homelessness are directed toward the 211 housing crisis line and encouraged to seek diversion assistance. Diversion is the primary strategy to address those at imminent risk, and households are encouraged to visit the Diversion Center. If the Diversion Center cannot divert the household, they are directed toward the relevant program based on their special needs or lack thereof. Multiple organizations collaborate on the diversion initiative.

The CAN has traditionally conducted mobile outreach in partnerships with the Police Department. Given that the Department of Public Works and Emergency Management Technicians also frequently interact with the homeless population, especially in encampments, the CAN has recognized the need for increase coordination, communication, and development of formal encampment protocols.

Journey Home is the coordinating agency and thus responsible for the overall administration of the CAN and HMIS system. Journey Home, through the CAN and the CoC Committee, establishes goals and performance measures. Journey Home began using Coordinated Entry in 2014, and it has been effective in directing people who are homeless to mainstream services that can assist them. Mainstream health services assist in outreach efforts for homeless

individuals and families.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City of Hartford's Department of Health and Human Services owns and operates both overnight and day shelters to meet the needs of homeless residents. Approximately 40% of the people staying in the City's emergency shelters are from outside of the City of Hartford. Many of the people staying in City shelters for extended amounts of time have substance abuse issues and require additional services. There is an additional warming center during cold weather.

Many domestic violence survivors are placed in the emergency shelter system.

The Greater Hartford Coordinated Access Network helps homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

According to the Greater Hartford Coordinated Action Network (CAN), there is a need for more permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing, and supportive services to assist people in need of housing. The Housing First Model's approach is to help individuals and families access and sustain permanent rental housing as quickly as possible, without time limits, and with a standard lease agreement, as opposed to mandated therapy or service compliance. They offer a variety of services to promote housing stability and individual well-being on an as-needed basis. They also address the issues that cause homelessness. However, the CAN has calculated that only 20% of the homeless population is being served through these programs and more need access to services. Members of the CAN believe that Single-Room Occupancy Rentals, if managed well, could meet much of this need.

Due to the shortage of affordable housing, individuals and families with the lowest incomes are at risk of homelessness. Journey Home provides programs to support landlords who house the formerly homeless and prevent them from re-entering the shelter system. Though some other programs exist, including funds to provide tenant-based rental assistance, diversion is the primary strategy to prevent homelessness. According to 2023 Point-in-Time Count, the most recent period for which data is available, there were 454 individuals experiencing homelessness and in Greater Hartford. Of these, 407 were sheltered and 47 were unsheltered.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

The GH CAN helps low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

The Greater Hartford CAN has created a Community Care Team of healthcare providers to work with mental and physical health institutions to discharge patients into supportive housing. The Community Care Team is working with the healthcare institution to manage frequent healthcare users who are also homeless. Many of these individuals are chronically homeless. For other users, the Greater Hartford CAN utilizes diversion methods to help former patients find housing before entering the shelter system.

The City of Hartford's Department of Health and Human Services provides healthcare programs to residents of the City. The Department works with seniors in the City to provide in-home healthcare and to prevent injuries through a mixture of education and funding for reasonable modifications and accommodations to prevent hospital stays and subsequently being discharged into housing instability.

Treatment centers for individuals recovering from addiction exist in the City of Hartford. Organizations such as the Connecticut Harm Reduction Alliance (formerly Greater Hartford Harm Reduction Coalition) will assist individuals in these centers to gain self-sufficiency, allowing them to be discharged into supportive housing as opposed to homelessness.

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) operates a number of mainstream services that supplement homeless services in the area. The Mayor will be creating an Opioid Epidemic Task Force that works with the DHHS to study and plan for treatment of the opioid epidemic. DHHS also works to provide mainstream services through its Women and Families Division. The Department of Children, Youth, and Families assists youth aging out of foster care. The Youth Engagement Team Initiatives has been partnering with the court system to reduce sentences to prevent children from being discharged from the juvenile justice system into homelessness.

The City of Hartford has chosen to prioritize assisting the re-entry population to avoid homelessness. The City has provided for a Re-Entry Welcome Center that offers resources to those exiting incarceration, as well as caseworkers and meeting times for those seeking services to learn from the experiences of others within that population. Re-entry services exist for both men and women, and include counseling and connections to job training and housing resources. The Re-Entry Welcome Center has just relocated to a new facility and acts as a central hub to direct the re-entry population to additional supportive services.

Discussion

See above

AP-70 HOPWA Goals– 91.220 (I)(3)

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:	
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	20
Tenant-based rental assistance	37
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	13
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Total	70

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction:

The City of Hartford in its most recent Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice did not identify any negative effects of its public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing. The City has continued to revise and update its Zoning Ordinance. This document is consistent with the Fair Housing Act, Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. There are no other public policies that restrict fair housing.

The City of Hartford is committed to removing or reducing barriers to the development of affordable housing whenever possible throughout the City. A variety of actions include, among others, to reduce the cost of housing to make it affordable. The Mayor of the City of Hartford has openly called to decrease racial segregation between the City of Hartford and the surrounding communities.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

In 2016, Hartford adopted a new form-based zoning code, which encourages human-scale building forms and walkable, pedestrian-oriented design for all new construction. It also encourages retrofitting older buildings for new use. Many elements of this new zoning code help enable diverse housing options.

Hartford has since adopted a number of initiatives that support affordable housing development. Specifically,

- **TOD Overlay:** The City's new zoning map identifies Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Overlays in the ½-mile around the train and BRT stations. Higher densities and more flexible uses are permitted in these TOD Overlay zones.
- **Affordability Bonus:** The Zoning Regulations provide a density bonus (additional height) for certain building types in the Downtown and TOD Overlay areas if they include 15% or more affordable units.
- **Elimination of Parking Minimums:** The new Zoning Regulations no longer require parking minimums. Instead, they set parking maximums for certain uses. This generally helps facilitate development and increase density, as parking minimums can be burdensome for new development in terms of both cost and space.

- Unit Size: With the adoption of Public Act 21-29 (HB 6107), the State removed the ability of municipalities to impose a minimum unit size beyond what is allowed in the Building Code. Hartford’s Zoning Regulations, which previously imposed minimum unit sizes of 300 sf for microunits and 500 sf for other unit types in multifamily development, and 1,000 sf in 1-4-unit development, have been superseded by these new state standards.
- Minimum Lot Size: Hartford’s Zoning Regulations generally do not impose a minimum lot size for residential uses, with the exception of some residential building types that do impose a minimum lot width.

Discussion:

During its FY 2023 CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA Program Year the City proposes to fund activities/projects that affirmatively further fair housing. This includes:

- Planning and design of new affordable housing developments.
- Funds for downpayment assistance for low income homebuyers.
- Emergency relocation services for displaced tenants and homeless individuals.
- Funds for neighborhood fair housing organizations.
- Housing counseling services. Job training and economic development opportunities.
- Funds for social services and health programs.
- Funds for project financing and related costs for affordable housing developments.
- The construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing units through Development Services, utilizing HOME and CDBG funding
- CDBG and HOME-ARPA funds may be used to support homeless shelter improvement and operations In addition, the City will leverage other federal Section 8 funding to affirmatively further fair housing:
 - Development Services will utilize Section 8 vouchers to continue to create access to areas of opportunity
 - Project-Based vouchers will be utilized to create sustainable affordability in projects around the city
- Treasury ARPA funds will be used to create affordable homeownership opportunities for those individuals and households under 80% of Area Median Income (AMI)

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Hartford has developed the following actions which addresses obstacles to meeting underserved needs, fosters affordable housing, reduces lead-based hazards, reduces the number of poverty-level families, develops institutional structures, and enhances coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City under its FY 2023 CDBG Program Year will take the following actions to address obstacles to meeting the underserved needs:

- Funding to organizations to undertake economic development activities- technical assistance and micro grants- that promote and support entrepreneurship and small business development.
- Funding to human service agencies for education and career development services that increase opportunities for low-income persons, especially those populations that face barriers to employment.
- Support activities – public safety and blight eradication- that improve the quality of low-moderate income neighborhoods.
- Funding to human service agencies and homeless service providers to provide essential services, youth development, and housing counseling.
- Continue to provide educational, training, employment, and recreational opportunities for youth.
- Provide financing and investments to expand the inventory of affordable housing, improve the quality of existing housing stock, and increase homeownership opportunities.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City is proposing the following goals and strategies to foster and maintain affordable housing:

- **HSS-1 Homeownership** - Assist low- and moderate-income households to become homeowners by providing down payment assistance.
- **HSS-2 Housing Construction** - Increase the supply of decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing that is affordable to owners and renters in the community through new construction.
- **HSS-3 Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation** - Continue to provide financial assistance to

low- and moderate-income homeowners to rehabilitate and improve the energy efficiency of their existing owner-occupied housing.

- **HSS-4 Renter-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation** - Provide financial assistance to landlords to rehabilitate housing units, improve energy efficiency, and convert existing buildings for rent to low- and moderate-income tenants.
- **HSS-5 Neighborhood Revitalization** - Promote and strengthen the housing stock in residential neighborhoods throughout the City.
- **HSS-6 Fair Housing** - Promote fair housing choice and affirmatively further fair housing choice through education, training, and outreach in throughout the City of Hartford.
- **HSS-7 Tenant-Based Rental Assistance** - Provide financial assistance to tenants by providing funds for housing costs to sustain affordability.
- **HMS-2 Prevention and Re-Housing** - Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for rapid re-housing.
- **HMS-3 Housing** - Support the rehabilitation and accessibility improvements to emergency shelters and transitional housing for the homeless.
- **HMS-4 Permanent Housing** - Support the development of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families.
- **SNS-1 Housing** - Increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, sound, and accessible housing for the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and/or persons with other special needs through rehabilitation of existing buildings and new construction.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Because the City of Hartford has almost three times as many rental units than owner occupied units, there is a greater need for rental rehabilitation to serve tenants than there is for homeowner-occupied rehabilitation. There is a need to incorporate environmental health into the rehabilitation work, including screenings for lead-based paint, asbestos testing, and radon gas remediation measures.

The housing rehabilitation programs managed by the Housing Division contribute to the reduction in the number of housing units that contain lead-based paint hazards, and increase the inventory of lead-safe housing available to very low-, low-, and moderate-income tenants, homebuyers, and owners rehabilitating their properties. Housing programs require that several action steps be taken to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards in homes built prior to 1978.

- In accordance with the Lead Safe Housing Rule (April 22, 2008), Hartford's Housing programs follow guidelines that may include the provision of the EPA/HUD/Consumer Product Safety Commission brochure entitled *Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home*, and a HUD Lead-Based Paint Notice, which is a disclosure to purchasers regarding

the dangers of lead-based paint poisoning.

- State certified lead inspector/risk assessor perform property inspections or risk assessments to determine the existence of potential lead-based paint hazards. Depending on the type and size of the project, programs require homeowners and developers to notify occupants of lead hazard evaluation and reduction activities. Safe work practices must be utilized while performing standard treatments (paint stabilization, correcting dust-generating conditions, addressing bare residential soil, and creating smooth/clean horizontal surfaces).
- Clearance tests must be performed on all surfaces that had previously shown to be positive for lead-based paint, and on all surfaces presumed to be a lead hazard. Projects (above \$25,000 per unit) require full abatement and ongoing maintenance through lead management plans.

Contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes must comply with changes to the April 22, 2008 Lead Safe Housing Rule to comply with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines.

Additionally, The City's Health and Human Services Department administers a Lead Hazard Demonstration Grant program. Funded by HUD, the program abates lead hazards in 1-4 unit homes where children under the age of six reside or will reside.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Approximately 30.5% of the City of Hartford's residents live in poverty, while only 11.2% of Hartford County residents live in poverty and 13.5% of the State of Connecticut residents live in poverty. Female-headed households with children are particularly affected by poverty at 45.0%. The City's Five-Year Goals to reduce the number of families living in poverty are as follows:

- **HMS-2 Prevention and Re-Housing** - Continue to support the prevention of homelessness through anti-eviction activities and programs for rapid re-housing.
- **SNS-2 Social Services** - Support social service programs and facilities for the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons with alcohol/drug dependency, and persons with other special needs.
- **CDS-4 Public Services** - Improve and enhance public services including: programs for youth, the elderly, disabled, and other public service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
- **CDS-5 Food Programs** - Provide assistance for food and nutritional programs to address the needs of the unemployed, underemployed, and homeless populations.

- **EDS-1 Employment** - Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, workforce development, employment, and job training services for the unemployed and underemployed persons including summer youth programs.
- **EDS-2 Financial and Technical Assistance** - Support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development through technical assistance programs and low interest loans, grants, and micro grants.
- **EDS-3 Redevelopment Program** - Plan and promote the development, redevelopment and revitalization of economically distressed areas of the City.

The City with its FY 2023 CDBG funds plans to fund the following types of economic development and anti-poverty programs include:

- Workforce development
- Youth employment training programs
- Support services for new employees
- Entrepreneurship programs
- Assist in job creation and retention
- Small businesses financial and technical assistance
- Minority and women-owned business support

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

To effectively implement the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the City consistent collaboration with a broad base of institutions and organization located in the City of Hartford, Hartford County, and adjacent New Haven County. The City seeks to enhance the coordination of the delivery of services and the development of projects for all funding sources. Given the number of organizations involved in the implementation of the City’s Five year Consolidated Plan, enhanced coordination and effective communication among all involved parties at every stage is essential for success.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

The Office of Central Grants Administration is committed to continuing its participation and coordination with public, housing, and social service agencies. The City solicits applications for CDBG, ESG, and HOPWA funds. In addition, Central Grants Administration and Development Services send out applications to agencies, organizations, and housing providers that have previously submitted an application or have expressed an interest in submitting an application. The applications are reviewed by the City, which scores applications based on a series of criteria that is available on the application. The City provides help and assistance to the public and private agencies which they fund.

Discussion:

See above

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction:

This section summarizes additional funds available under the CDBG program as well as programmatic requirement of the HOME program and ESG.

For CDBG, the City has included all Program Income within its funding allocations and does not anticipate any Section 108 proceeds or settlement from urban renewal settlements. the City will achieve a minimum of 70% expenditures for low mod benefit for the one year certification period (PY 2023)

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	70.00% 1 year- PY 23-24

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section

92.205 is as follows:

The City of Hartford is not using other forms of investment beyond those identified in Section 92.205 for HOME activities.

- 2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:**

HOME Resale/Recapture guidelines are included within the Grantee Unique Appendices as they exceed space allowed.

- 3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:**

Resale/Recapture affordability guidelines are included within the Grantee Unique Appendices as they exceed space allowed.

- 4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:**

The City of Hartford's HOME Program allows for HOME funds to be used for refinancing existing multifamily debt in accordance with the following guidelines noted below. The cost to refinance existing debt, secured by housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds, may be an eligible expense under the following circumstances:

Rehabilitation must be the primary eligible activity. The majority of the HOME funds invested in the project must directly support rehabilitation activities. Refinancing may only be eligible when total rehabilitation costs per unit are \$50,000.00 or more. HOME funds for refinancing existing debt shall be disbursed after the rehabilitation is complete, the owner has met all project requirements and a Certificate of Occupancy has been issued.

If the property is occupied, a review of management practices will be required to demonstrate that disinvestment in the property has not occurred, that the long-term needs of the project can be met, and that the feasibility of serving the targeted population over an extended affordability period can be demonstrated.

The new investment may be made to either maintain current affordable units or to create additional affordable units.

Minimum required period of affordability when refinancing as part of a project shall be 15 years.

Investment of HOME funds for refinancing may be made at locations anywhere in the City. HOME funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any other Federal Program, including CDBG.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

Reference 91.220(I)(4)

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

ESG Written Standards 1A

CT CANs use 2-1-1 as a universal “front door” to homelessness assistance, as well as CAN-specific HUBs as a second “front door” to the system. 2-1-1 operates, as of Nov 1 2022, from 8a-4p, 7 days a week. Clients can call during those hours to schedule a coordinated entry assessment. CANs also offer “walk-in” appointments at physical locations around the state, called HUBs, for persons who are already homeless and for whom scheduling an assessment via phone is a barrier. Entry into the homeless service system is made through one of the two “front doors” described here.

Providers should not allow entry into programs through any other referral system or through other “side doors.” Exceptions to these “front door” requirements include 1) minors, who may receive services from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ funded Runaway and Homeless Youth programs, and 2) Veterans, who may receive services from U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs homeless programs without first going through 2-1-1 or the CAN HUBs. When a household (individual or family) in crisis calls 2-1-1, 2-1-1 works with the household to help identify any resources that might be able to resolve their housing crisis immediately. If the household’s crisis cannot be resolved with resources available through 2-1-1 (including utility assistance, emergency food assistance, and similar), and the household is at imminent risk of or already experiencing homelessness, 2-1-1 creates a CAN appointment for the household with the appropriate CAN.

When a household experiencing homelessness goes to a CAN HUB location in person, HUB staff may either assess the household immediately, or if time does not allow, work with the household to schedule a future appointment. Because some persons experiencing homeless, in particular those with very high levels of need, may not be aware of or able to navigate the phone-based 2-1-1, or who may be reluctant to engage with services, CANs have the HUB walk-in option as well as partnerships with Street Outreach teams that work directly in the community to identify homeless individuals, families, and youth and support them to engage in services.

Street Outreach workers can accompany clients to in-person HUB locations, improving the quality and humane responsiveness of the process for vulnerable clients reluctant to engage with services. Households seeking homeless resources must be directed by homeless service providers to 2-1-1 or CAN HUBs. This process ensures that the CANs are able to prioritize assistance to clients least likely to resolve their homelessness on their own. HUBs are specifically designed to ease access barriers for the most vulnerable clients and are not meant to replace 2-1-1 as the primary front door for households seeking resources. HUBs should be accessed by providers only in situations where one of the following:

1. Client is already experiencing homelessness,
2. Client is being discharged from an institution in the next 48 hours with no other options.
3. AND calling 211 poses a significant challenge for the client and/or provider.

ESG Written Standards 1B

Street Outreach shall provide the following services to meet the needs of Clients, based on a needs assessment conducted by, and in accordance with, the housing plan developed by the Street Outreach Worker:

- 1) Case management: Street Outreach Workers will use a “Housing Focused” approach, developing plans for permanent housing with all unsheltered homeless persons. Staff will engage in conversations focused on housing history and potential housing solutions as the client allows. Exploration of family reunification and shared housing will be also be discussed as appropriate. Staff will assist clients with accessing benefits and financial assistance. Administer the VI-SPDAT assessment to any unsheltered individual after 3rd engagement (using professional judgement to assess levels of engagement and if it should be completed upon 1st engagement). If a VI-SPDAT is inappropriate to complete, a place holder score may be sent to put the household on the By Name List. Staff will generate a service plan focusing on client directed goals and barriers to housing. Staff will also participate in weekly housing matching meetings. Staff will also complete housing applications, security deposit applications, and assist with all relevant paperwork when services are not available with housing.
- 2) Provision of basic toiletries: Street Outreach shall provide clients with water, food, basic toiletries, and other items as needed.
- 3) Transportation assistance: Street Outreach shall provide clients with transportation to emergency shelter, treatment, and/or other community resources, if available, and necessary, by using the program vehicle, staff’s personal car (mileage to be reimbursed) and/or bus passes.

ESG Written Standards 1C

Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Funds

The City will work with the selected service provider (referred to below as the Subrecipient) to finalize written standards for providing compliant ESG assistance. The following is taken from the draft RFP:

- 1) Client’s household income must be at or below 30% Area Median Income. Client must also meet the following requirements:
 - The program can work with any CAN household.
 - There is a priority for serving family households – a household consisting of one or more adults 18 years or older accompanied by one or more custodial children, or a woman in the third trimester of pregnancy.
 - Client must have an income history.

- Only those clients that meet each of these requirements will move on to evaluation of their risks, barriers, and employability.
- 2) Client must be referred to the program in one of the following ways:
 - The Greater Hartford CAN conducts an intake and makes a direct referral to the program; or
 - The Greater Hartford CAN conducts an intake and places the client on the Individual or Family Shelters' Waiting List; or
 - The client is eligible for the program but was inadvertently admitted to the Family Shelter and is enrolled in the program within the first seven (7) days of residing in the shelter.
 - 3) Funding decisions will be made through the Diversion Center's case conferencing process. As these funds are a community resource, the case conferencing process is encouraged to use them as efficiently as possible.
 - 4) Once a client is qualified by the Subrecipient and confirmed by the Subrecipient's Director of Housing, clients will receive rental assistance on a first come, first served basis.
 - 5) Program applicants will be assisted in developing balanced household budgets which will reflect their monthly cash income, non-cash benefits, and household expenses. Clients will be placed in housing where their housing rental cost burden will be no more than 55% of their projected gross income for a cold flat rent, or 65% for rent and utilities. On entrance, if the client has no resources, the program will pay for a first month's rent and security deposit. Clients with resources will be evaluated on an individual basis and will contribute towards first month's rent and security deposit based on their resources. Clients who do not work cooperatively with the program concerning program policies and guidelines may be discharged from the program at any time.
2. If the Continuum of Care has established a centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

Together, CT 2-1-1 and Coordinated Access Networks (CANs) provide individuals and families facing homelessness with a centralized point of entry into the homeless response system. The intake process meets all the state and federal guidelines related to determining eligibility, collecting data, explaining program options and responding to grievances. The CT CANs cover and are accessible to individuals, families, and youth experiencing homelessness throughout the entire geographic area of the state of Connecticut. CT CANs work to ensure that they provide rapid access to initial intake appointments, and that the initial intake process is clearly documented and consistently executed. Access to services through the CT CAN process is sensitive to the special needs of domestic violence victims, adults with disabilities, children with special needs, and youth. For those who are reluctant to engage with services or to seek assistance, each CAN has outreach specialists who work to proactively outreach to and engage those living outdoors or other places not fit for human habitation. Each CAN has also developed access sites for youth, including meeting the youth at a location of their choice in the community. CT CAN operational practices and participating projects (e.g. recipients and

subrecipients of CoC program and ESG program funds) must take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to Coordinated Access Network services by persons with limited English proficiency (LEP). CT CANs and CoC providers must determine what language needs exist, what assistance measures are sufficient for the CAN, and what reasonable steps they will take to ensure meaningful accommodations.

Diversion Specialists meet with all households who attend an appointment after the intake process to explore alternatives to shelter, including assisting with rental arrears, mediation with landlords, family, or friends, and assistance with relocation to stay with natural supports who live outside of the Greater Hartford (GH) CAN. Diversion Specialists make all efforts to keep households out of shelter, but if no other safe and appropriate housing options have been identified, the Diversion Specialists will refer the household to the Street Outreach team for verification. If a household is verified as literally homeless, the Street Outreach Team will add the household to the centralized online shelter priority list. In the GH CAN, shelter beds are limited, and so all ESG-funded shelters fill any available beds with households from this list.

This By-Name List is used in all GH CAN Housing Solutions meetings. The statewide By-Name-List (BNL) is a centralized and prioritized list of individuals, families, and youth experiencing homelessness. The statewide BNL provides GH CAN with a comprehensive list to be used for identifying and matching individuals and families to appropriate interventions and prioritizing placement into housing. All state and federally funded rapid re-housing, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing projects are required to accept referrals ONLY from the By-Name List that is maintained by Journey Home and monitored by CT DOH, and should be filtered for GH CAN homeless population for prioritization decisions. Households must be added to the By-Name List to be eligible for referral to state and federally funded rapid re-housing, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing projects. When referrals are made from the BNL, community providers in GH CAN collect and review all required documentation for designated housing resources and interventions. Journey Home will work within GH CAN to ensure each referred client's housing status is accurate based on continuous communication with shelter case managers, outreach workers, and any other provider connected with the client. Clients who are no longer literally homeless will have their enrollment data updated accordingly, which will exclude them from the BNL until or unless they re-enroll in a qualifying project.

Coordinated Access System Description 2B

All new individuals entering the CAN are screened by designated CAN staff for their homeless histories and disability status to ascertain if they meet the definition for chronic homelessness. Before households are removed from the CAN's By Name List, due diligence is performed by attempting outreach to the client, contacting shelters, soup kitchens and area hospitals. This process ensures that the By Name List of households seeking permanent housing is as up to date and accurate as possible.

The GH CAN had previously adopted the suggested Order of Priority set forth by the HUD in 2021 to determine who will be prioritized for Permanent Supportive Housing Units that become available in the GH CAN geographic region. As the State of Connecticut and the City of Hartford are working towards making homeless rare, brief and non-re-occurring, stakeholders have developed protocols to prioritize those who are considered "Dedicated Plus", including the chronically homeless, for Permanent Supportive Housing.

Rapid Re-housing programs are similarly being prioritized for those most in need following screening for eligibility criteria.

In addition to this ranking, the two Housing Matching Committees' Coordinated Exit meetings (referred to as Individual Solutions and Family Solutions committees, for individuals, and for families, respectively) may take into account any of the following criteria to help guide the placement of households on the prioritized referral list: High Utilizer of Community Resources, such as the ER, ambulance, police departments, detox programs; Type of Homelessness, as a higher priority may be given to persons who have more time living outside or have a higher risk and vulnerability; and agency staff can advocate for a higher priority for someone who has historically presented as more vulnerable.

The GH CAN participates in the statewide process that has been designed to integrate Domestic Violence Shelters into the Coordinated Access Networks. This process maintains the anonymity of the households fleeing domestic violence, while at the same time allowing them to be considered for the housing opportunities available to the CAN. Domestic Violence Shelters attend the relevant housing matching meetings so that they can speak to the needs of their clients.

Households that are matched to housing opportunities but refuse assistance are tracked separately and are offered the chance to engage in the housing process at least once every two weeks by designated CAN staff.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

Sub-Awards for Emergency Shelters - In accordance with the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH Act) Emergency Solutions Grant, not more than 60% of Hartford's ESG funds are allocated on a yearly competitive basis (RFP) to eligible private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations) that perform emergency shelter activities in neighborhoods throughout Hartford. In 2014, the City and the Hartford Continuum of Care (CoC), as required under HEARTH Act regulations, considered the allocation of ESG funding. As a result, a consensus was reached that the current funding process did not reflect current on-the-ground realities in the shelters, such as the number of shelter beds, utilization rates, and services being offered by the shelters, and agreed it was time to make significant changes to that process. The City first met with the Hartford CoC in April 2014, during which a consensus recommendation was reached on how ESG shelter operating funds should be allocated among the Hartford shelters; this formula was revised working closely with the GH CAN in April 2019. In 2022, the GH CAN voted for a one-year reallocation of ESG funds to meet the needs of the community during the pandemic. It was voted that ESG funds previously awarded to Emergency Shelters would be used to maintain Shelter Diversion and Homeless Outreach Services that would otherwise be lost due to the city exhausting ESG-CV funds previously used to operate these programs. The GH CAN voted in 2023 to recommend to the City of Hartford to return to funding shelter operations with the portion of funding that was allocated for outreach and diversion funding.

- ESG funding for Shelter Diversion and Homeless Outreach services are derived from a pre-existing subcontract the city has with Journey Home, Inc. to retain as much staffing as possible in each of these programs.

- Performance evaluations are based on measures such as number of individuals and families diverted from shelter.

Sub-award for Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Funds - The City allocates the remainder of its ESG funds for use in Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing activities and for permitted administration cost, also in accordance with the regulations set forth under the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH Act). Prevention funds have been allocated to the Mercy Housing and Shelter Corporation, a private nonprofit organization, through a competitive bidding process (RFP) held in June 2016, with the program starting in September 2016.

The Hartford Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HHPRR) helps families that are homeless households and those households at significant risk of becoming homeless to transition as quickly as possible into permanent housing, as well as to help such families achieve stability in that housing. HHPRR provides case management, housing relocation and stabilization services and homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing short term financial assistance to Hartford residents who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Eligible households must be Hartford residents.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

The City of Harford meets this requirement.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

Shelter Diversion - Each Subrecipient provider shall implement the programs and services described herein to assure the following outcomes on behalf of clients. Such outcomes shall be measured in the manner described herein and documented by client records. Outcome results achieved pursuant to these terms and conditions will be monitored by the City.

Outcomes Defined:

- 1) Individuals and families will be diverted from literal homelessness with outcomes tracked by CTCANDATA.org.
- 2) Individuals and families will be diverted from literal homelessness with financial assistance.
- 3) Maintain a median length of time from 211 call to CAN diversion appointment of no greater than 2 business days. Street Outreach- Each Subrecipient provider shall implement the programs and services described herein to assure the following outcomes on behalf of clients. Such outcomes shall be measured in the manner described herein and documented by client records. Outcome results achieved pursuant to these terms and conditions will be monitored by the City.

Outcomes Defined:

- 1) 90% of referrals from 211 or community partners will be contacted within 72 hours, or due diligence for those unable to be located

ESG Performance Measures

Measures of performance have been established as follows:

- Measure 1 - Housing
Individuals: No more than 15% of Clients discharged to homelessness.
Families: No more than 15% of Clients discharged to homelessness.
- Measure 2 – Housing
Individuals: At least 40% of Clients access permanent housing upon discharge.
Families: At least 40% of Clients access permanent housing upon discharge.
- Measure 3 – Support Services
Individuals: 100% of Clients have been provided with information on health, education, housing, budgeting, and/or other services, in order to enable them to make informed decisions on meeting their needs.
Families: 100% of Clients have been provided with information on health, education, housing, budgeting, and/or other services, in order to enable them to make informed decisions on meeting their needs.
- Measure 4 – Coordinated Access
100% of clients have come in to the program through coordinated access.
A 5% statistical variance from the outcome measures listed above is considered acceptable.
Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Funds - The City will monitor outcome results achieved pursuant to these terms and conditions.
- Average equals sum of the number of days from program entry to move in date for all households divided by total number of households.
- Percent equals total number of households exited to permanent housing during a time period divided by total number of households that exited program during same period.
- Income levels of households receiving financial assistance by very low-, low-, and moderate-income categories quarterly and program-to-date.
- Average financial assistance (including all types of eligible costs, except security deposits) provided per household quarterly and program-to-date.
- Average financial assistance (including security deposits) provided per household quarterly and program-to-date.
- Demographic breakdown of persons or households who received financial assistance (including but not limited to race, ethnicity, and disability status categories) quarterly and program-to-date.
- Percent equals total number of households who did not become homeless within a time period divided by total number of households exited to permanent housing during the same time period.

- Number/Percent of persons employed.
- Number/Percent change in household income.
- Number/Percent of households leaving with employment income.
- Number taking steps to sustain housing once temporary program assistance has ended;
and
- Compliance with City-approved parameters for data completeness.

NOTE: Permanent housing may include private, unsubsidized housing; subsidized housing; permanent supportive housing; or housing shared with friends or family in a sustainable living situation (one that should not be categorized as “temporary”). Permanent housing does not include shelter, a transitional housing program, jail or prison, or residential treatment.

APPEDIX: IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE

The following is a list of the 2020 Impediments to Fair Housing Choice determined by the 5 Year Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, along with corrective actions and anticipated outcomes:

Impediment No. 1

The City of Hartford is segregated by race, national origin, and income. However, any segregation within the City pales in comparison to the degree of segregation in the region.

Action Steps	Anticipated Outcomes
1. Provide fair housing services to Hartford residents including intake and fair housing counseling	Provide intake and counseling to 50 Hartford households who believe they have been the victim of discrimination
2. Investigate complaints to determine if discrimination took place	Perform 10 fair housing test parts on complaints received from Hartford residents
3. Promote mobility by making it easier for tenants with housing vouchers to move to any community they choose;	Provide intake and counseling to 15 Hartford residents who believe they have been the victim of discrimination because they plan have a housing voucher
4. Investigate claims of source of income discrimination	Perform 5 fair housing test parts on complaints alleging source of income discrimination
5. Ensure that people with disabilities have access to housing that fits their needs throughout the region	Intake and investigate 15 complaints from people with disabilities
6. Aid people with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations and reasonable modifications in order to obtain or keep their housing	Request 10 reasonable accommodations and/or reasonable modifications for Hartford residents

Impediment No. 2

Complaints, allegations, reports, the community survey, and an analysis of demographics and patterns of minority concentrations indicate that illegal housing discrimination continues to be a problem in the City of Hartford.

Action Steps	Anticipated Outcomes
1. Intake, investigate, and process complaints, including filings with HUD and CHRO.	Complete intakes and investigate for 30 Hartford residents
2. Perform fair housing tests to investigate fair housing complaints	Complete 6 fair housing test parts to investigate complaints of discrimination
3. Publicize awards and settlements in fair housing cases to encourage compliance.	Publicize fair housing victories when possible

Impediment No. 3

Many community residents lack a basic knowledge of their rights under the Fair Housing Act and where to go for assistance if they encounter housing discrimination.

1. Provide trainings to housing consumers to educate them about their fair housing rights, how to identify housing discrimination, and where to go for help if they encounter housing discrimination.	100 Hartford residents receiving information on the fair housing laws through classes
2. Make fair housing pamphlets and literature available through City offices, organizations and businesses throughout the city – including the Fair Rent Commission	The City will distribute 150 pieces of fair housing literature.
3. Attend fair housing events and presentations at community events and workshops	Support NHPZ, community workshops, fair housing events throughout the year

Impediment No. 4

Fair housing agencies, housing advocates, observations from trainings, workshops, clinics, interviews, and partnerships with public and private agencies indicates there are staff working in areas of housing who lack a knowledge of fair housing adequate to inform, assist, and/or refer clients who need help with fair housing issues.

1. Train city staff working in the area of housing or in a position that has contact with people who may have housing discrimination complaints.	1 training reaching 9 staff members
2. Train staff from housing-related non-profit organizations in the City of Hartford that receive funding from the City or HUD	1 training reaching 20 staff members

Impediment No. 5

Many housing providers lack a working knowledge of fair housing laws and what is required for compliance with those laws.

Action Steps	Anticipated Outcomes
1. Ensure housing providers (including real estate agents, property managers, landlords, property owners, lenders, insurance agents, architects, planners, contractors, builders, and others) receiving information about their responsibilities under the fair housing laws and how to achieve compliance.	25 housing professionals will be referred to CHRO for informational literature, trainings, meetings on the fair housing laws CFHC and City will participate in housing-related events throughout the year

2. The Center will work with the City of Hartford to provide fair housing trainings to private housing providers seeking to participate in City-funded projects	Check with City staff each quarter and provide training as needed
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Impediment No. 6

Predatory and abusive lending practices in the City of Hartford have targeted minorities and other classes protected under the Fair Housing Act.

Action Steps	Anticipated Outcomes
1. Provide foreclosure prevention advice to Hartford residents at risk of losing the homes	Provide foreclosure prevention advice to 10 Hartford residents
2. Represent Hartford residents at risk of losing their homes to foreclosure	Provide representation to 10 Hartford residents
3. All home purchase related programs will include anti-predatory and abusive lending practice disclosures for mortgage lending institutions.	Lending institutions servicing 35 city-assisted homebuyers will subject to anti-predatory guidelines

Impediment No. 7

Neighborhoods with high rates of foreclosures indicate a higher likelihood to be denied or offered less favorable terms, fees, and conditions when applying for loans or insurance coverage.

Action Steps	Anticipated Outcomes
1. Conduct investigations to determine if there are disparities in costs,	Perform 5 test lending tests on lending institutions serving Hartford residents to determine if they are offering different terms and conditions to people in the protected classes

rates, coverage, terms and conditions of loans, and home insurance that are attributable to the race, national origin, or gender of the loan applicant	
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Impediment No. 8

The problems of the lack of accessibility for persons with disabilities and the frequent denial of request for reasonable accommodations and modifications persist. These include the following:

- Lack of accessibility in rental housing.
- Housing industry resistance to mandated accessibility provisions.
- A shortage of funding for accessibility improvements in older housing units.

Action Steps	Anticipated Outcomes
1. Ensuring that any new housing complies with the design and construction accessibility requirements as required by HUD.	City provides design and construction information and guidance via participation in its HUD-funded programs. CDBG/HOME/SEC 8
2. Education and outreach on accessibility and visitability requirements	The City will provide information/pamphlets to 300 residents, property owners and landlords via group mailing, email, and other outreach methods
3. Trainings for property owners, builders, and contractors regarding	Due to capacity issues, the City will not provide training associated with this action step. However, the City will

<p>their responsibilities to meet Fair Housing Act the design and construction accessibility requirements independent of local building codes.</p>	<p>provide design and construction information and guidance via participation in its HUD-funded programs. CDBG/HOME/SEC 8</p>
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Impediment No. 9

There is a need to explicitly include AFFH planning and the tools to implement it at the front end of Federal projects to track the actions used by the City to AFFH.

Action Steps	Anticipated Outcomes
<p>The City of Hartford will require in each housing project file a written AFFH plan from developers/owners defining specifically how affirmatively furthering fair housing will be accomplished by the project</p> <p>The City is in the process of creating a user-friendly template for demonstrating compliance</p>	<p>Number of plans submitted and received by developers is TBD, but as many as are required.</p> <p>In addition, The City of Hartford, on an annual basis, will require developers/owners of housing projects to submit an affirmative marketing report.</p>

Impediment No. 10

Despite a large Spanish-speaking population, 40% of the subsidized housing provider websites reviewed by the City had no information in Spanish.

Action Steps	Anticipated Outcomes
<p>1. Providing Information</p>	<p>City shall provide information on Title VI to owners and/or</p>

<p>on Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons for housing providers who receive CDBG/ Federal Housing Subsidized funds.</p>	<p>managers of HUD subsidized housing developments on annual basis and strongly encourage revision of websites.</p>
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Impediment No. 11

The AI identified three impediments to fair housing in the City’s new Housing Code Enforcement Ordinance based on group homes:

- They must renew their license every year.
- They cannot transfer their licenses.
- They must have a supervisor on site at all times

Action Steps	Anticipated Outcomes
<p>1. The City, via ordinance, has recently changed the number of years for before a renewal of a license is necessary for Groups Living Together for Health Reason in a manner that is consistent with similar types of housing arrangements</p>	<p>For similar types of housing arrangements, including Groups living Together for Health Reasons, licenses are active for 4 years before renewal of those licenses are required.</p>

Impediment No. 12

The AI identified three areas where tenants are likely to face discrimination in the rental market:

- Discrimination against disabled subsidized tenants.
- Discrimination against renters based on source of income.
- Tenants with criminal records will be prevented from renting due to background check results.

<i>Exploratory Action Steps</i>	<i>Anticipated Outcomes</i>
<p>1. Previous Recommendation: The City should survey affordable housing providers of City assisted projects to determine whether they have adequate fair housing procedures, including for processing reasonable accommodation and reasonable modification requests, and for reviewing applications from tenants who may have a criminal or eviction record.</p>	<p>Currently, neither the City nor the CFHC has the capacity to implement the recommended action step at this time.</p> <p>The CFHC and the City will continue to share education materials with owners, landlords, and residents related to all forms of housing discrimination.</p> <p>The City has also allocated \$1 Million in funding to cover the legal costs for tenants seeking legal representation courtesy of Greater Hartford Legal Aid.</p>
<i>Exploratory Action Steps</i>	<i>Anticipated Outcomes</i>
<p>1. City to fund a fair housing investigation and testing program to investigate whether suspected</p>	<p>Currently, neither the City nor the CFHC has the capacity to take this action step at this time.</p> <p>The City, shall however, on a quarterly basis, provide landlords with education materials related to all forms</p>

landlord(s) is discriminating against potential tenants based on their source of income or their public records (criminal and eviction) histories.	of housing discrimination
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Impediment No. 13

In 2011, the City established a goal to develop more than 2,300 new units of housing. However, it has fallen short of this goal, particularly in the creation of housing units below 120% AMI. Because race and national origin correlate with people who are low-income, integration of the Downtown area requires additional units that are affordable.

Action Steps	Anticipated Outcomes (<i>Realized</i>)
1. The City continues to make every effort on a project-by-project basis to include affordable units if and when feasible.	<p>The City will engage 3 “downtown” shovel ready developers on the subject of affordable units</p> <p><i>At present, 10% of the housing in the City’s downtown is restricted affordable – a figure that is higher than many towns and cities as a whole.</i></p> <p><i>The City’s Zoning Code already gives a density bonus (additional height) for affordable housing in the Downtown and Transit-Oriented Development areas.</i></p> <p><i>No parking requirements, further incentivizing new development.</i></p>